

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 03871 051512Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAA-02 DOE-15 SOE-02 OES-07
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 EB-08
/110 W

-----021713 060216Z /62

R 051414Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1366
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3871

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, YS, KU
SUBJ: RECENT EVENTS IN THE YEMENS

REF: STATE 164020

1. ON JULY 5 I CONVEYED POINTS PARA. 2 REFTEL TO ACTING
UNDERSECRETARY, MFA, ASKING FOR GOK VIEW OF THE SITUATION IN
WAKE OF THE EXECUTION OF SALIM RUBAY'I ALI AND THE ARAB
LEAGUE FOREIGN MINISTERS' DECISIONS IN CAIRO. I SAID THAT
IT APPEARS FROM THE PRESS THAT KUWAIT HAS PROBLEMS WITH
APPLICATION OF ARAB LEAGUE DECISION FOR TOTAL FREEZE ON
RELATIONS BETWEEN ARAB LEAGUE STATES AND PDYR.

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2. ACTING UNDERSECRETARY, SAID THAT KUWAIT HAD SUCCEEDED,
IN CAIRO, IN AMENDING THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION CALLING FOR
FREEZE OF ALL POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS
WITH ADEN, DELETING THE WORD "ALL" SO THAT STRICTLY
HUMANITARIAN AID COULD CONTINUE. HE MENTIONED THAT
KUWAIT HAS IN THE PAST SENT DOCTORS TO ADEN AND HE GAVE THE

IMPRESSION THAT KUWAIT WOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SUCH ASSISTANCE AS HAD A DIRECT BEARING ON THE WELFARE OF INDIVIDUAL YEMENIS. HE STATED FLATLY THAT KUWAIT IS ENTIRELY BOUND BY THE ARAB LEAGUE DECISION AND HAS THEREFORE FROZEN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH PDRY TOTALLY. HE CONCURRED WHEN I ASKED IF THIS EMBRACED PROJECT ASSISTANCE, ANY CASH SUBSIDIES, AND SUPPLY OF OIL TO ADEN REFINERY. COMMENT: DESPITE ACTING UNDERSECRETARY'S STATEMENT, EMBASSY SUSPECTS KUWAITIS WILL FOLLOW PAST PRACTICE AND MAINTAIN LOW-VISIBILITY LINKS TO ADEN, ESPECIALLY FUNDING OF MULTI-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. GOK SPOKESMEN ARE EMPHASIZING THAT FREEZE DOES NOT MEAN BREAKING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. RE POLITICAL FREEZE, WE NOTE THAT PDRY INDUSTRY MINISTER ABDUL AZIZ ABDEL-WALI IS HERE, WAS RECEIVED BY FON MIN SHAIKH SABAH AL-AHMAD, AND IS TELLING THE KUWAITIS THAT SALIM RUBAY'I ALI ALONE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR GHASHMI'S KILLING. IT LOOKS TO US AS IF GOK IS ONCE AGAIN TRYING TO PLAY THW SWEETLY REASONABLE ROLE, ARGUING THAT ADEN MUST BE BROUGHT BACK INTO THE FOLD FOR THE SAKE OF ARAB UNITY.

3. I ASKED ACTING UNDERSECRETARY WHETHER, IN VIEW OF RECENTLY IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN KUWAIT AND IRAQ, THERE HAD BEEN ANY CONSULTATION WITH BAGHDAD CONCERNING KUWAIT'S REACTION TO EVENTS IN THE YEMENS. ACTING UNDERSECRETARY SAID HE KNEW OF NO SUCH CONSULTATIONS, ALTHOUGH HE SAID IT COULD HAVE OCCURRED AT A VERY HIGH LEVEL. HE NOTED THAT OF COURSE
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IRAQ, AS A MEMBER OF THE REJECTION FRONT, DID NOT FEEL BOUND BY THE CAIRO FOREIGN MINISTERS' DECISION. I ASKED THAT ACTING UNDERSECRETARY ARRANGE FOR ME TO DISCUSS WITH MFA THE SITUATION IN THE ENTIRE AREA AND HEAR GOK'S CURRENT THINKING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
SUTHERLAND

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NNN

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